

Implementation of Smog Check Improvements

Presentation to South Coast AQMD

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Implementation may require the changes to the following:

- Legislation
- Regulation
- Test Equipment & Cutpoints
- Analyzer Software Update
- Test Procedures/Equipment
- Technician Training
- State Referee Program
- Consumer Education/Outreach
- Data Capture, VID & Evaluation
- Enforcement
- Consumer Assistance Program (CAP)
- Staffing & Other Resources

Legislation/Regulation

- Legislation needed for concepts such as:
 - OBDII only testing
 - Annual testing of older vehicles
 - Testing new vehicle types
- Regulations needed for changes such as:
 - Test procedures
 - Test equipment
 - Pass/fail standards (cutpoints)

Test Equipment & Cutpoints

- When new test equipment is required the following takes place:
 - Research and development of equipment specifications
 - Roadside testing to determine test issues, procedures and cutpoints
 - Coordination with equipment manufacturers
 - Certification testing
 - Educate Industry/Consumers

Analyzer Software

- Any change to existing test protocol requires an update to the analyzer software
 - Stations required to pay for update
 - BAR develops software change request but relies on equipment manufacturer to produce necessary changes
 - Time consuming, last update took 18 mos.+ to install

New Analyzer Concept

- BAR plans to replace current 10-year-old BAR97 analyzers
- Concept includes an off-the-shelf computer using BAR developed software
- Software will interface with updated and current test equipment components such as: 5-gas analyzer, dynos, fuel cap testor, OBDII scanner
- Result: easier to revise software routines, update cutpoints, add new equipment

Test Procedures, Technician Training & Referee Services

- New tests mean new test procedures
- Requires update to:
 - Analyzer software routine
 - Smog Check manual
 - Technician licensing tests
 - Referee services
 - Enforcement covert audit set up

Data Capture, VID Changes & Ongoing Evaluation

- Important to ensure that the proper data is captured to measure the results of the improvement
- Any change to the test record requires a software change
- Software changes require a change to the Vehicle Information Database (VID) that must be coordinated with the VID contractor
- Automated data reporting and evaluation routines must also be changed

Enforcement

- Update staff training
- Develop automated “triggers”
- Monitor Station Performance
 - Quality Assurance Inspections
 - Market Sampling/Documented Vehicles

Consumer Assistance Program (CAP)

- New tests = more demand on CAP for repair assistance or vehicle retirement
- Additional funding may be necessary
- Performance measures for Gold Shield stations may need to be revised
- Contracts with CAP-approved dismantlers may need to be revised

Staffing & Other Resources

- Smog Check improvements may require
 - Additional staffing, limited term or full time
 - Purchase of test equipment for referee and enforcement
 - Contract funds for VID changes, study and research
 - Additional funding for referee, CAP and DMV
 - Coordination with DMV and other entities